

# What are those Purple Boxes Hanging in Trees?



To help in the monitoring of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in the state of Iowa, the collaborative partners [Iowa Department of Agriculture, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Plant Protection and Quarantine] have a survey initiative to look for the exotic, ash tree-killing insect. EAB researchers have developed a survey tool, a purple prism trap and lure that will be used in Iowa and in 45 other states throughout the country.

## How does the EAB trap work?

The traps contain a lure that is attractive to EAB adult beetles. The outside of the traps are coated with non-toxic glue which keeps EAB in place until traps are collected.

## Will the purple trap attract EAB to my area?

Purple traps do not attract or pull beetles into an area. The traps are a detection tool to help find EAB if it is present in the area.

## How long will the survey take?

The purple traps will be placed in ash trees this spring before EAB adults emerge. The traps will be monitored and remain in place throughout the summer during the beetles' flight season. This fall all traps will be removed.

## What should I do if I see a trap on the ground?

If you see a purple trap on the ground, please contact USDA-APHIS-PPQ at 515-251-4083 and describe the location of the trap.

## What is EAB?

EAB is a green insect that attacks and kills ash trees.

## What does EAB look Like?

The larvae look similar to white grubs, while the adults are a metallic-green beetle and are a half inch long.



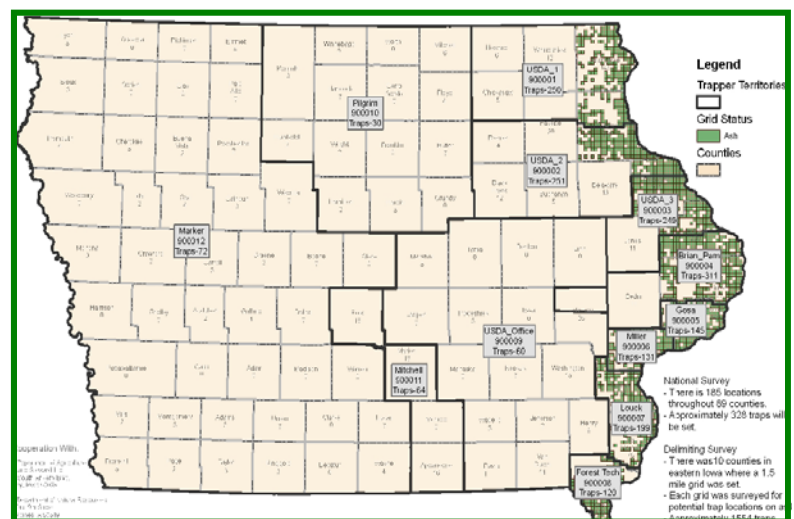
## How does EAB kill ash trees?

The larvae feed on the inner bark of ash trees, cutting off the flow of food and water.

## How can I stop EAB?

Do not move firewood and instead buy wood where I am staying and burn it completely.

**For more information:**  
<http://www.firewood.org>



**For more information on EAB in Iowa:**

<http://www.iowadnr.gov/forestry/eab/>

